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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. McInnis].

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

> WASHINGTON, DC, February 29, 1996.

I hereby designate the Honorable SCOTT MCINNIS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

From the rising of the Sun until the going down of the same, we offer our thanks and praise to You, O God, for Your gracious gifts of faith and hope and love. When we falter or fail, You lift us up; when we do justice and seek mercy, You encourage and make us whole. For all Your marvelous deeds, O God, that forgive us and point us in the way, we offer these words of gratitude and thanksgiving. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Nebraska [Mr. BARRETT] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

PERMISSION FOR SUNDRY COM-MITTEES AND THEIR SUB-COMMITTEES TO SIT TODAY DURING THE 5-MINUTE RULE

Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the following committees and their subcommittees be permitted to sit today while the House is meeting in the Committee of the Whole under the 5-minute rule: Committee on Banking and Financial Services, Committee on Commerce, Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities, Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, Committee on International Relations, Committee on the Judiciary, Committee on National Security, Committee on Resources, Committee on Science, and Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

It is my understanding, Mr. Speaker, that the minority has been consulted and that there is no objection to these

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nebraska?

There was no objection.

AGRICULTURAL MARKET TRANSITION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 366 and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2854).

□ 0903

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House

on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2854) to modify the operation of certain agricultural programs, with MR. HANSEN, Chairman pro tempore, in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Wednesday, February 28, 1996, amendment No. 8 printed in House Report 104-463 offered by the gentleman from New York [Mr. BOEHLERT] had been designated.

Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York [Mr. BOEHLERT] and a Member opposed each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York [Mr. BOEHLERT].

 $\mbox{Mr.}$ BOEHLERT. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I rise this morning on behalf of America's farmers, on behalf of America's hunters and fishermen, and on behalf of the environment. What do the National Wildlife Federation, the American Farm Bureau, and the National Rifle Association all have in common?

They are all strong supporters of the Boehlert conservation amendment. Why have major agriculture and environmental organizations in the United States endorsed my conservation amendment? Because the conservation amendment before us is profarmer and proenvironment. Chairman ROBERTS, Chairman BARRETT, and Congressman Peterson have worked with me to craft a conservation title that provides American farmers with the resources they need to protect the environment that we all need. Every urban American and every rural American will benefit from this amendment.

 \Box This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., \Box 1407 is 2:07 p.m. Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

